



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/902,060	07/09/2001	Roger Collins	05545.P001	9276

7590 04/12/2002

Thomas C. Webster
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP
Seventh Floor
12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026

EXAMINER

WAMSLEY, PATRICK G

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2819

DATE MAILED: 04/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/902,060	Applicant(s) Collins et al
Examiner Patrick Wamsley	Art Unit 2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a) All b) Some* c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

15) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

18) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____

16) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

19) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2

20) Other: _____

Art Unit: 2819

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,760,716 to Mathews et al, hereafter Mathews.

For claim 1, Mathews provides a compression method comprising the steps of identifying a data block; generating a pointer [vector data] based upon data in previous messages [by searching a history buffer]; and replacing the data block with the pointer [to create substitution code]. Claim 11 restates these method elements in apparatus format.

For claim 21, Mathews provides a method comprising the steps of providing an interface and replacing data blocks with pointers.

For claim 2, 12, 23, Mathews transmits data to a device for storage [history buffer].

For claim 3, 13, 24, Mathews decompresses a message by inserting data from a previous message [corresponding to a substitution code].

For claim 4, 14, 25, Mathews identifies a previous message based on a subject field

Art Unit: 2819

For claim 5, 15, 26, Mathews identifies if a message is in response to a previous message.

For claim 6, 16, 27, Mathews uses various compression techniques [col. 1, lines 10-17].

For claim 7, 17, 28, Mathews replaces common strings of characters with codes.

For claim 8, 18, 29, Mathews defines one character string as an e-mail address domain.

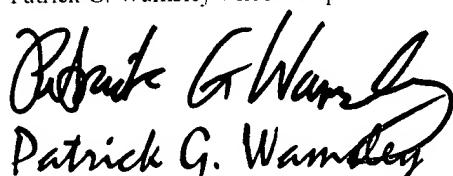
For claim 9, 19, 30, Mathews uses six bits of code per character

For claim 10, 20, 22, Mathews compresses e-mail messages.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent 4,682,150 to Mathes et al uses a pointer with redundant data to compress data entries. U.S. Patent 5,049,881 to Gibson et al creates pointers based on processed characters drawn from an alphabet. U.S. Patent 5,126,739 to Whiting et al uses substitution codes after finding a longest matching data string. U.S. Patent 5,563,595 to Strohacker generates pointers for matching data elements.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patrick G. Wamsley whose telephone number is (703) 305-3504.


Patrick G. Wamsley
April 10, 2002